(b) DTC has informed that they have not received any suggestion in this regard.

(c) Does not arise.

**Setting up of National Ports Authority**

83. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 319 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 27th April, 1988 and state:

(a) whether Government have since finalised the details of the proposal for setting up of National Ports Authority; and

(b) if so, by when it is proposed to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) No. Sir.

(a) The Question does not arise.

**Concessional Passes for Journalists**

84. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to issue concessional passes for journalists to enable them to travel in D.T.C. buses; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b) The facility of concessional passes has been already extended by DTC to the journalists. All route concessional passes are issued to accredited press representatives at the rate of Rs. 70/- per pass per month to enable them to travel in its buses. These passes are valid on all types of city buses including night services except Indira Gandhi International Airport Coach and tourist services.

**Procuring of Phosphoric Acid Carriers by Shipping Corporation of India**

85. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Shipping Corporation of India propose to procure three phosphoric acid carriers; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the proposal and the name of the country from which these will be procured?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Phosphoric Acid Carriers are to be procured from Spain at a price of US $ 29.1 million each. The Government of Spain have agreed to provide a soft loan to meet a part of the credit requirements.

**Enhancing of Financial Powers of Port Trusts**

86. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have enhanced the financial powers of Port Trusts in the country; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the decision taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b) In May, 1988 Government revised the delegation of powers to the Port Trusts and *inter alia* enhanced the powers of Port Trust Boards to sanction new works or appliances for plan schemes in